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SP00-366

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Lehman et al.

Serial No: 10/033,144

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filing Date: 10/26/01

Examiner: J. Derrington

Title: AN APPARATUS AND
METHOD OF DOPING SILICA
WITH FLUORINE DURING
LAYDOWN

REPLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action dated October 1, 2002, designated as Paper No. 4 in the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendments and consider the Remarks as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

(Amended) 1. A method for doping silica soot with fluorine during laydown, comprising the steps of:

- providing a bait rod;
- providing a burner, the burner emitting a reactant flame;
- providing at least one first gas-feed separated from the burner, the gas-feed being in fluid communication with a source for supplying a first jet of fluorine based gases from the source;
- depositing on a radial surface of the bait rod a layer of silica soot on the bait rod by vaporizing a silica producing gas emitted from the burner within the reactant flame of the burner; and

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